

Introduction to the History of Protestant Christianity in Japan

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The year 1959 is the year celebrating the Centenary of the beginning of Protestant missionary work in Japan, because in the year 1859 the first missionaries were sent to this country. This study discusses the arrival of missionaries at the end of Tokugawa days, and the attitudes of the Government and of the Japanese people towards them, with the hope that we can enhance our understanding of the later development of Protestant Christianity in Japan. On the whole, it can be said that missionaries have been making steady progress since their arrival in 1859, but it should be noted that the progress has been of getting themselves prepared for future work and of gaining greater freedom.

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